
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING COLLABORATION AMONG VARIOUS STATE AGENCIES TO
IDENTIFY BARRIERS RELATING TO THE PRACTICE OF ADVANCED
PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSING TO THE FULL EXTENT OF THE
NURSES' EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
2 marks the undertaking of significant health care reform
3 throughout the country; and
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5 WHEREAS, reform efforts that increase access to care,
6 provide health care to the uninsured, and close gaps in health
7 inequalities will depend on a stable and enduring workforce that
8 can provide health care services across many settings; and
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10 WHEREAS, in 2010, a report from the Institute of Medicine
11 of the National Academies and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
12 proposed a series of recommendations to advance and strengthen
13 the United States health care system during this period of
14 change; and
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16 WHEREAS, according to the report, Advanced Practice
17 Registered Nurses should practice to the full extent of their
18 education and training, and scope of practice barriers to
19 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses should be removed; and
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21 WHEREAS, this body is dedicated to addressing the needs and
22 interests of the people of Hawaii, including ensuring that
23 quality health care is easily accessible to consumers throughout
24 the State; and
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26 WHEREAS, this body recognizes that Hawaii's physician-
27 primary care provider shortage has increased the need for
28 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses who can provide primary
29 health care; and



1 WHEREAS, this body also recognizes that national data
2 supports the fact that Advanced Practice Registered Nurses can
3 immediately increase access to quality, cost effective care if
4 restrictions to their ability to practice are removed; and
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6 WHEREAS, in recent years, the Legislature has passed
7 legislation requiring insurers to recognize Advanced Practice
8 Registered Nurses as primary care providers and permitting
9 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to practice within the full
10 scope of their practice; and
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12 WHEREAS, this body finds that despite passage of these
13 barrier-breaking Acts, the provisions of these Acts have not
14 been fully implemented by the responsible executive departments
15 of the State; and
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17 WHEREAS, simultaneous collaboration among state agencies is
18 needed to align and modernize their applicable state statutes
19 and administrative rules with recent legislation; and
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21 WHEREAS, these obsolete statutes will continue to
22 negatively impact Hawaii consumers until state agencies align
23 and modernize their statutes and rules for the benefit of the
24 people of Hawaii; and
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26 WHEREAS, the leadership and recommendations of the
27 Department of the Attorney General and the Legislative Reference
28 Bureau will be needed due to the scope of the required
29 revisions; and
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31 WHEREAS, there is an immediate need to ensure that the
32 State has a stable and enduring Advanced Practice Registered
33 Nurse workforce that can provide seamless, quality care in
34 response to federal health care reform, including in medically
35 underserved rural areas; now, therefore,
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37 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
38 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
39 Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that state agencies
40 including but not limited to the Department of Health,
41 Department of Human Services, Department of Public Safety,
42 Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, State Board of
43 Nursing, and Disability and Communication Access Board are
44 requested to identify barriers to the practice of Advanced



1 Practice Registered Nurses to the full extent of the nurses'
2 education and training in the statutes and administrative rules
3 specific to their respective departments; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state agencies are further
6 requested to enlist the assistance of the Department of the
7 Attorney General in identifying barriers and proposing
8 amendments to remove barriers in their respective statutes and
9 administrative rules; and
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state agencies and the
12 Department of the Attorney General are requested to gather their
13 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
14 legislation, by September 1, 2013; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of the Attorney
17 General is requested to transmit a draft report of the agencies'
18 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
19 legislation, to the Legislative Reference Bureau and the
20 Governor no later than November 1, 2013; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
23 Bureau is requested to submit a final report of the agencies'
24 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
25 legislation, to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to
26 the convening of the Regular Session of 2014; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
29 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Attorney
30 General, Acting Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau,
31 Director of Health, Director of Human Services, Director of
32 Public Safety, Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs,
33 Director of Labor and Industrial Relations, Executive Director
34 of the Disability and Communication Access Board, Executive
35 Director of the Hawaii State Center for Nursing, and Chairperson
36 of the State Board of Nursing.

